

A TRIBUTE TO KEN REID AND  
DEBRA MADISON-REID

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ken Reid and Debra Madison-Reid. Ken and Debra have known each other their entire lives. They played together as children in the streets of Bushwick where Debra resided and where Ken would visit relatives who lived on the next street. While the two of them were enrolled in high school, Debra's family moved to the same block as Ken's best friend.

Ken and Debra lost contact after high school though Ken had made countless attempts to win the heart of his long-time friend. After high school, Ken enrolled at Hofstra University, pursuing a degree in Broadcast Engineering. Following graduation, he accepted a position at New York Telephone Company, now Verizon. The very first day he reported for work, he opened the door and saw Debra and they were once again connected. They were married in Brooklyn, New York on October 18, 1982.

Years later, Debra and Ken found themselves without a tenant for the top floor of their brownstone. With no prospects in sight, they realized they had to get creative very fast. Ken has always purchased gift certificates to area spas; meanwhile, Debra was able to persuade Ken to host several of their own spa parties at places like the Presidential Suite at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Manhattan. Eventually, they would convert the top floor of their brownstone into a day spa.

The Spa Club in Bed-Stuy opened its doors December 30, 2006 and has become a place that nourishes the mind, body, and soul. Their clients include government officials, members of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, members of the New Jersey Nets organization, local church congregates and other community organizations.

There are plans in the works to expand The Spa Club throughout the entire building within the next 2 years. There are also plans to have a location in the Atlantic Yards within the next 5 years.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize both Ken Reid and Debra Madison-Reid for their contributions to our community and providing a place for us to nourish our minds, bodies and souls after a hard day.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this beautiful couple who have the type of story of which movies are created.

TRIBUTE TO DEPUTY JEFF WILLIAMS AND OFFICER MICHAEL KETTERER

**HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2007*

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, on August 18, 2007, Placer County Sheriff's Deputy Jeff Williams and California Highway Patrol Officer Michael Ketterer responded to the call

of a woman who was about to commit suicide. The woman planned to jump from the Foresthill Bridge, which at 730 feet tall is the third highest bridge in the country.

Upon arrival, Deputy Williams and Officer Ketterer were met by Mr. Michael Owens, who was attempting to calm the woman until help arrived. When the officers approached the woman, they realized she had climbed over the rail of the bridge and was hanging by her hands while her feet dangled beneath her. Exhibiting extraordinary bravery, Deputy Williams reached through the rail and grabbed the woman's left arm while the two other men assisted in attempting to pull the woman to safety. In doing so, all three men risked their own lives by leaning over the side of the bridge safety rail in order to rescue the woman from certain harm.

I would like to commend Deputy Jeff Williams for his heroic efforts. A graduate of Sierra College who currently resides in Roseville, CA with his wife Maria, Deputy Williams is an asset to his community and deserves to be praised for his selflessness and bravery.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF OSSIE DAVIS

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2007*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Ossie Davis, an American actor, World War II veteran, writer, and civil rights activist.

Raiford Chatman Davis, better known as Ossie Davis was born on December 18, 1917 in Cogdell, Georgia as the fifth child of Laura Cooper and Kince Davis. The name Ossie derived from a pronunciation of his first and middle initials, RC.

He began studying in 1939 at Howard University, but decided to withdraw to pursue his dream of being an actor. He relocated to New York City and began acting with the Rose McClendon Players in Harlem. He served as a surgical technician for the Army during World War II from 1942 to 1945. After returning from the war, he continued to pursue his dream of acting and debuted in the 1950 film *No Way Out*. He was an exceptional actor and appeared in many movies, television shows and stage plays.

He married Ruby Ann Wallace, also known as Ruby Dee, in 1948. She was also an actress and civil rights activist. Their contribution to the civil rights movement was significant and inspiring. They played a key role in planning the historical 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom and served as emcees. They were friends of Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and Rev. Jesse Jackson and worked side by side with them to advance the rights of African Americans. Mr. Davis had the honor of delivering the eulogy for Martin Luther King, Jr.

In 2007, their album "With Ossie and Ruby: In This Life Together," won a Grammy Award for Best Spoken Word Album. Mr. Davis passed away on February 4, 2005. His contributions to the performing arts and civil rights movement will live on for years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHIEF OF POLICE RALPH MENDOZA'S OUTSTANDING SERVICE AND DEDICATION TO THE CITY OF FORT WORTH

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2007*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Fort Worth Chief of Police Ralph Mendoza. After more than 35 years with the Fort Worth Police Department, and almost eight years as the top cop, Ralph Mendoza will retire in February 2008.

During Mendoza's tenure, the city of Fort Worth saw reductions in crime and advances in technology. Serving as the first Hispanic Police Chief of Fort Worth, Mendoza is praised by other city officials, calling him an "outstanding chief" and applauding his efforts as Police Chief that led to a reduction in the crime rate for the city.

Additionally, others go on to say that Fort Worth "is indeed a better place" because of Mendoza's efforts, which helped to make the city the ninth-safest in the country.

Mendoza began his career with the Fort Worth Police Department in 1972 as part of the now-defunct cadet program. He graduated from the police academy in 1974 and later became the department's first Hispanic lieutenant, deputy chief and chief. He was appointed acting chief in August 1999, and was named Police Chief in January 2000.

I am sure the decision to retire was not an easy one for Chief Mendoza. I join his colleagues in wishing him all the best as he looks forward to spending more time with his wife, children and grandchildren.

It is with great honor that I recognize Chief Ralph Mendoza for his decades of hard work and selfless dedication given to the citizens of Fort Worth, Texas. I am proud to represent him in Washington, and his service will set a standard of devotion and true leadership, one that will never be forgotten.

SUDAN ACCOUNTABILITY AND  
DIVESTMENT ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 18, 2007*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, the continuing tragic situation in Darfur is an attack on humanity and I believe that Congress, that the President, that the international community, and everyone concerned about their fellow men and women has a responsibility to work toward ending this genocide.

Local and State governments around this Nation are expressing their outrage over the ongoing genocide, as they should be. S. 2271 encourages these actions by allowing these governments to divest from companies that continue their financial ties with Sudan. As we support these communities as they take a stand, it is vital that the Federal Government do so as well. S. 2271 provides this support by barring Federal contracts with companies doing business with the Sudanese government.